

House Concurrent Resolution No. 36

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5074L.011

2 **Whereas**, the Great Flood of 1993 resulted in catastrophic damages throughout
3 much of the Upper Mississippi River basin, including Missouri, with forty-seven deaths
4 attributed to the flood and flood damages exceeded 15 billion dollars, and approximately one-
5 half of the flood damages were related to agricultural losses and approximately 74,000 people
6 were evacuated and flooding damaged 72,000 homes; and

7 **Whereas**, while in-place flood damage reduction facilities (e.g. levees, etc) built
8 by the Corps of Engineers prevented an estimated 19 billion dollars in potential additional
9 damages and while the Great Flood of 1993 could not be prevented, an integrated system of flood
10 management measures could have further reduced the amount of damages incurred; and

11
12 **Whereas**, the flood and several studies, reports, and ongoing initiatives prompted
13 citizens to push for a comprehensive plan to integrate existing and needed projects into a
14 coordinated system for flood damage reduction and floodplain management, and previous studies
15 found that a systematic, integrated approach to flood management is necessary to reduce flood
16 damages; and

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18 **Whereas**, similarly, floodplain economic and environmental values can be
19 maximized by systematically identifying opportunities for floodplain-compatible economic
20 development and ecosystem restoration, preservation, and enhancement; and

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22 **Whereas**, the State of Missouri benefits from the revenues and economic activity
23 of countless businesses and public utilities that rely on flood control structures to protect
24 individuals and property from the ravages of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers; and

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26 **Whereas**, the State of Missouri benefits from improved public health and quality
27 of life for its citizens due to well-drained land and access to marinas that offer waterborne
28 recreational activities; and
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30 **Whereas**, flood control structures are integral for maintaining navigational
31 channels on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers; and
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33 **Whereas**, the federally-funded Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan will
34 develop recommendations for systemic flood protection and coordinate the varied uses of the
35 river; and
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37 **Whereas**, the Comprehensive Plan for the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers
38 will develop an integrated strategy and implementation plan for:

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- 40 (1) Systemic flood management and flood damage reduction;
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 - 42 (2) Continued maintenance and improvement of the navigation project;
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 - 44 (3) Improving management of nutrients and sediment, including bank erosion;
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 - 46 (4) Enhancing environmental stewardship; and
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 - 48 (5) Meeting river-related recreation needs and expectations.
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50 The plan will be a collaborative effort among three Corps Districts (St. Paul, Rock Island, and
51 St. Louis), the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Natural Resources Conservation
52 Service, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the states of Illinois, Iowa,
53 Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin, and appropriate nonfederal organizations. A task force
54 will be created to guide and coordinate development of the plan which will identify future
55 management actions and make recommendations for systemic improvements that provide
56 multiple benefits; and
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58 **Whereas**, the Comprehensive Plan will include recommendations for:

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60 (1) Construction of a systemic flood management/damage reduction project;

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62 (2) Floodplain management alternatives; and

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64 (3) Follow-on design and construction requirements.

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66 The Comprehensive Plan will include overall systemic recommendations, not optimized
67 recommendations for specific sites, including identification of required levels of protection and
68 detailed consideration of the impacts of the Standard Project Flood (SPF). The plan will be used
69 to seek congressional authorization for a systemic flood damage reduction project and other
70 floodplain management needs. Follow-on implementation studies will be necessary at specific
71 sites where additional analysis is required to develop the National Economic Development
72 (NED) plan. The costs of these follow-on implementation studies, preconstruction engineering
73 and design (PED), and construction will require appropriate cost sharing between federal agents
74 and local sponsors, including states, counties, municipalities, and levee districts:

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76 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
77 Representatives of the Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring
78 therein, hereby support the strengthening of flood control structures to a common level of
79 protection to improve the safety and well-being of the state's citizens, wildlife sanctuaries, and
80 economic assets, and endorse the federally-funded Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan.